

## **Local Wellness Policy**

### **Purpose:**

This instruction sets forth the policy to inform local educational agencies of the Local Wellness Policy requirement that goes into effect the first day of school beginning in the school year 2006-2007.

### **Scope:**

Sponsors participating in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

### **Description:**

Each local educational agency shall establish for schools under their authority a local school wellness policy that, at a minimum:

- (1) includes goals for nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that are designed to promote student wellness in a manner that the local educational agency determines appropriate;
- (2) includes nutrition guidelines selected by the local educational agency for all foods available on each school campus under the local education agency during the school day with the objectives of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity;
- (3) provides an assurance that guidelines for reimbursable school meals shall not be less restrictive than regulations and guidance issued by USDA;
- (4) establishes a plan for measuring implementation of the local wellness policy, including designation of 1 or more persons within the local educational agency or at each school as appropriate, charged with operational responsibility for ensuring that the school meets the local wellness policy; and
- (5) involves parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, the school board, school administrators, and the public in the development of the school wellness policy.

The law also requires USDA to make information and technical assistance available, on request, to local educational agencies, school food authorities and state educational agencies. This information and technical assistance would be used to establish healthy school nutrition environments, reduce childhood obesity, and prevent diet-related chronic diseases, and would be for guidance purposes only. The law further provides mandatory funding to the USDA to provide information and technical assistance to be available until September 30, 2009.

**SOURCE:** PUBLIC LAW 108-265, DATED, JUNE 30, 2004.